GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:366
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015
Most Polluted Cities
Danve Shri Raosaheb Patil

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cities in various States of the country included in the list of most polluted cities of the world;

(b) whether the Government has issued any Guidelines for compliance of environmental pollution norms to save them from pollution

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any stringent action has been taken by the Government against the industries and plants, responsible for spreading pollution; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) The National Ambient Quality Standards notified in November, 2009 comprises of 12 pollutants, namely, PM10, PM2.5, SO2, NO2, O3, CO, NH3, Benzene, lead, Arsenic, Nickel, BaP (particulate phase). The ambient air quality is monitored in 254 cities, towns, and industrial areas of the country by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), concerned State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) / Pollution Control Committees (PCCs) and NEERI for 3 to 8 pollutants. Different cities would stand differently in ranking on the basis of individual pollutants in ambient air. A report was bought out by the World Health Organisation (WHO) in 2014 ranking 10 cities of India among top 20 most polluted cities of world on the basis of levels of PM10 in ambient air which is based on the extrapolated and constructed data. The said ranking of cities is, therefore, not appropriate.

(b) & (c) BS III / IV emission norms are implemented for two, three and four wheelers. Appropriate quality of fuel as per notification is made available for vehicles. Pollution under Control (PUC) system is in place to check emission from on road vehicles. 43 critically polluted industrial clusters have been indentified for priority action. Emission standards are enforced in 17 categories of highly polluting industry by respective SPCBs / PCCs for UTs, as applicable.

(d) & (e) CPCB, SPCBs and PCCs are responsible ensuring compliance of provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Upon violations of any provision of the afore-said Acts by the industries, CPCB, SPCBs and PCCs takes legal action against such industries which includes closure of industry.

******